

## **VA GROUND WATER PROTECTION STEERING COMMITTEE**

**[www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpsc](http://www.deq.virginia.gov/gwpsc)**

The next meeting of the Steering Committee will be held on  
**Tuesday, July 15, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.**

**We will meet in the seventh floor conference room at DEQ's  
downtown office, 629 E Main Street, Richmond VA 23219.**

For more information contact Mary Ann Massie at 804-698-4042 or  
email [mamassie@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:mamassie@deq.virginia.gov)

### **Meeting Summary: Tuesday, May 20, 2008**

Steering Committee members in attendance:

Mary Ann Massie, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Resources Div.  
Valerie Rourke, Department of Environmental Quality, Water Quality Div.  
Jutta Schneider, Department of Environmental Quality, Waste Division  
Scott Johnson, Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services  
Erin James, Virginia Tech/Cooperative Extension (conf. call)  
Brian Benham, Virginia Tech/Cooperative Extension (conf. call)  
Grier Mills, Department of General Services/Division of Consolidated Laboratory  
Services  
George Harlow, US Geological Survey

Guests:

Ronnie Lawson, Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Surface Water  
Investigations  
Amy Simonson, Department of Environmental Quality, Office of Surface Water  
Investigations  
John Pollard, Pollard Environmental  
Steve Werner, Draper Aden  
Curtis Consolvo, GeoResources, Inc.  
Anthony Creech, Resource International  
Liza Fleeson, VDACS Office of Pesticide Services  
Gayl Fowler– SAIF Water Wells Inc.  
Peter Nash, Golder Assoc.

Agencies not in attendance:

Virginia Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy, Virginia Department of  
Housing and Community Development, Virginia Department of Health,  
Department of Business Assistance, and Virginia Department of Conservation and  
Recreation.

Ronnie Lawson gave an overview of the responsibilities within DEQ's Office of Surface Water Investigations. The staff in this office work out of Charlottesville and Tidewater to collect flow and levels data for surface and ground water throughout the state. Ronnie stressed their cooperative relationship with the US Geological Survey as being key to their success.

## **AGENCY UPDATES:**

### **Department of Environmental Quality**

Mary Ann Massie reported on the reorganization affecting the Water Resources Division. Terry Wagner will retire effective June 1 and the division will be absorbed into the Water Division. Scott Kudlas has been named manager over the new Office of Water Resources Management and will report to Dr. Ellen Gilinsky, director of the Water Division.

Mary Ann noted the RFP for wellhead protection implementation projects will be issued early July. Funding levels have not been established.

Jutta Schneider, Waste Division, noted they have a vacancy to fill in the Ground Water section, Office of Hazardous Waste.

Valerie Rourke, Office of Land Application Programs/Water Div., stated a notice of intended regulatory action (NOIRA) to amend the VPA, VPDES and Fee Regulations relating primarily to biosolids land application issues will be published within the next month. More specific information regarding this regulatory action will be provided in the NOIRA. The General VPA Permit Regulation for Poultry Waste Management is also being amended and a technical advisory committee has been organized specifically to examine the need for requiring nutrient management plans for end users receiving more than 10,000 dry tons of poultry litter annually.

Valerie also noted the Water Reclamation and Reuse Regulation has been finalized and is at the Governor's office awaiting approval. Once the Governor gives the go ahead, it will be published for 30 days in the Virginia Register and is expected to become effective immediately thereafter.

### **Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

Scott Johnson noted his involvement in the biosolids and the poultry litter TACs. He also noted they are working on their public participation guidelines. He reported Liza Fleeson's promotion to director of the Office of Pesticide Services. Liza Fleeson reported submittal of their water quality management plan to EPA. They anticipate approval as their grant is renegotiated for FFY09.

### **US Geological Survey**

George Harlow reported the USGS Virginia Water Science Center, in cooperation with the DEQ Ground-Water Characterization Program, completed drilling and abandonment of a 600-ft test hole in north-central Southampton County. Borehole geophysical logs were obtained from the test hole prior to abandonment. Roto-sonic drilling and installation of four (4) observation wells at

the site will begin on May 27th. Additionally, three (3) observation wells were installed in Bedford County, Virginia, two in the Montvale Park area and one in the vicinity of Otterville. Finally, roto-sonic drilling and installation of fourteen (14) observation wells in the City of Virginia Beach will begin on June 16th.

### **Department of Mines, Minerals, and Energy**

The passing of George Patrick "Bo" Willis was noted. Mr. Willis was the director of DMME. Mr. Benny Wampler has been named acting director.

### **Department of General Services, Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services**

Grier Mills reported the Abingdon office was closed. 8 positions were affected by the office closing.

He also noted the Federal disinfection byproduct rule resulted in an increased number of samples coming in to the lab. Additionally DCLS was recently approved to run samples submitted under the LT2/surface water rule. They are certified in ecoli enumeration procedures to assist systems sampling under LT2.

### **Department of Health**

An email from VDH indicates they have successfully filled the vacant FCAP Division Director position, previously held by Tom Gray. Steve Pellei accepted the position. Steve was previously the Division Director for Technical Services.

### **Virginia Cooperative Extension**

Erin James and Brian Benham reported the Household Water Quality Program is off and running. They have drinking water clinics scheduled in Rockingham (June), Caroline and King George (July), Fauquier and Culpeper (September) and Dinwiddie and Prince George (November). They are hoping for a total of 1000-1200 participants for 2008 clinics.

Erin will hold a Master Well Owner Network training for extension agents in the fall of 2008. The training will be 1-2 days and will cover various topics including hydrogeology, well construction and wellhead protection, water quality testing and water treatment. Information on outreach and education techniques and tips for working with underserved audiences will be included.

### **Department of Housing and Community Development**

Wyatt Little provided the following update in absentia:

April 2008: Completion of Self-Help Program Project in Wakefield:

Residents in Wakefield receive access to public water and sewer service through volunteer efforts and Self-Help grant. Funding for the Self-Help Grant is provided through Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds administered by DHCD. Residents of the Birch Island Road community, 70 percent of whom are low- to moderate- income participated in the project.

Self-Help Virginia was created to assist Virginia's rural localities in need of water and wastewater systems. The program provides funds primarily for materials, project supervision, engineering and administrative costs. The program requires community volunteers to do the majority of the labor, saving a minimum of 40 percent over conventional contracted wastewater projects. The Birch Island Road

project was constructed for less than \$600,000, or 45 percent of the conventional cost estimate, saving approximately \$700,000.

Volunteers installed more than four miles of water and sewer lines and grinder pumps. The project benefits more than 65 Birch Island residents. Water will be provided to the neighborhood through the Town of Wakefield, and sewer services will be administered by the Sussex Service Authority (SSA).

Since its inception in 1998, some 40 Self-Help projects have taken place throughout Virginia, providing water and wastewater service to more than 1,300 homes, and benefiting more than 3,000 citizens. More than \$21 million of construction work has been completed for an actual cost of less than \$10 million.

#### May 2008: Water Quality Improvement Grant Award

Governor Kaine announced the award of \$7 million to 11 projects through the Southern Rivers Watershed Enhancement Program (SRWEP). Ten projects will be funded through the Wastewater Treatment System Construction Grant program, and one from both the Wastewater Treatment System Construction Grant and the Managed On-Site Construction Grant programs.

SRWEP is administered by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD), in accordance with guidelines and procedures developed with the Virginia Departments of Environmental Quality, Health, and Conservation and Recreation. The program is designed to improve the water quality of Virginia's non-Chesapeake Bay watersheds, and is funded through Virginia's Water Quality Improvement Fund.

Combined, these projects will connect 789 households to public wastewater services, install more than 45,000 linear feet of sewer line, expand or construct wastewater treatment facilities and reduce the amount of sewage flowing into several waterways, all of which have been deemed impaired by the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality.

Projects are located in the counties of Buchanan, Greensville, Pittsylvania, Roanoke, Scott, Washington and Russell, the cities of Chesapeake and Galax and the Towns of Norton and Kenbridge.

**OUR NEXT MEETING IS TUESDAY, JULY 15 in DEQ's 7<sup>th</sup> floor conference room. Please arrive ten minutes early to check in with our receptionist. I will have to ferry you up on the elevator so please plan ahead and arrive early.**

**The meeting will begin promptly at 9 a.m. with Agency updates.**

**Having the updates first will allow for special guests to arrive for the presentation portion of the meeting.**

**We will take a short break following the Agency updates and resume with a presentation by Brian Benham and Erin James, Virginia Tech Biological Systems Engineering. Brian and Erin will give an overview of the Household Water Quality Program and the Master Well Owner Network.**

**We will adjourn by 11 a.m.**

**Please mark you calendar to attend.**